AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the written description:

Please amend paragraph [0002] starting at page 1, line 11 and ending on page 2, line 7 as follows:

[0002]

Essential hypertension induces serious complications such as cerebral stroke, ischemic heart disease, nephrosclerosis and the like, and these complications are basically related to angiopathy due to excessive growth of vascular smooth muscle cells (VSMC) and are ~~target~~ targets of hypertension therapy. Further, after percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) for treatment of angina pectoris and myocardial infarction, restenosis occurs in about 40% of the cases, but there is no effective drug treatment therefor and is a big problem in the cardiovascular field. Histopathologically, it is known that TGF-β is involved in arterial proliferative diseases such as hypertensive vascular disease, neointimal formation after angioplasty and atherosclerosis. The cell growth in such diseases are thought to be suppressed by various mechanisms. One of the various mechanism is the inhibition of the transforming growth factor (TGF) expression.

Please amend paragraph [0018] starting at page 8, line 23 and ending on page 9, line 9 as follows:

[0018]

Synthetic polyamides can bind to a specific base pair in the minor groove of double helix DNA with a high affinity and specificity. The specific recognition of a base pair depends on the formation of a one-to-one pair between Py and Im. That is, in the U-shaped conformation in the minor groove of DNA, Py/Im pair targets a C-G base pair, Im/Py targets a G-C base pair, and

Py/Py targets both an A-T base pair and a T-A base pair (non-patent documents 16-17). According to a recent study, it becomes clear that as the result of substituting a pyrrole ring of Py/Py pair with 3-hydroxypyrrole (Hp), the A-T condensation can be overcome by binding of Hp/Py preferentially to a T/A pair (non-patent document 18).

Please amend paragraph [0019] starting at page 9, line 10 and ending on page 10, line 16 as follows:

[0019]

In general, the initiation of transcription is considered to be an important point of a gene control. For initiating transcription, several transcription factors are required to bind to specific recognition sequences in the promoter region of a gene. A polyamide in the minor groove may interfere with the gene control by blocking the binding of a transcription factor if the transcription factor plays an important role in the gene expression. This hypothesis has been proven to be correct in *in vitro* and *in vivo* experiments. An 8 ~~members~~ membered ring Py-Im polyamide, which is bound inside the recognition site of zinc finger (the binding site of TFIIIA), inhibits the transcription of the 5S RNA gene (non-patent document 19). Polyamides that bind to a base pair sequence contiguous to a transcription factor sequence in a promoter of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) blocks HIV-1 replication in human cells. These sequences include the TATA box, lymphocyte enhancer factor LEF-1 sequence and ETS-1 sequence (non-patent document 20). In contrast to these, a polyamide may also activate expression of a gene, by blocking repressor factor or replacing an original transcription factor (non-patent documents 21-23). UL122 mediated early protein 2 (IE86) of human

cytomegalovirus (CMV) blocks the supply of RNA polymerase II to the promoter and inhibits the transcription of the corresponding genes (non-patent document 21). Synthetic polyamides can block the inhibition by IE86 and relieve the expression of the corresponding genes (non-patent document 22). The polyamide designed by Mapp acts as an artificial transcription factor and mediates the transcription reaction of the gene (non-patent document 23).

Please amend paragraph [0021] page 12, lines 14-24 as follows:

[0021]

The aforementioned methods using antisense oligodeoxynucleotides and ribozymes have problems in that the target sequence is limited, the transfer of the antisense oligodeoxynucleotides and ribozymes to tissues and cells is inefficient, and they are prone to degradation by ribonuclease. Up until now, there is no report on TGF-β gene expression inhibitor using pyrrole-imidazole polyamides which bind to the hTGF-β gene base sequence, or a therapeutic drug for diseases related to TGF-β.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 13, line 21 and ending on page 14, line 10 as follows:

(1) A TGF-β gene expression inhibitor comprising a pyrrole-imidazole polyamide containing: an N-methylpyrrole unit (hereinafter also referred to as Py), an N-methylimidazole unit (hereinafter also referred to as Im) and a γ-aminobutyrate unit, wherein said pyrrole-imidazole polyamide can be folded into a U-shaped conformation at the γ-aminobutyrate unit in a minor groove of a double helix region (hereinafter referred to as target region) which comprises a part or all of the following base sequence from -557 to -536 (SEQ ID NO: 1) in a

human transforming growth factor β1 (hereinafter also referred to as hTGF-β1) promoter, and a complementary strand thereof:

TAAAGGAGAGCAATTCTTACAG (SEQ ID NO: 1)

wherein a Py/Im pair corresponds to a C-G base pair, an Im/Py pair corresponds to a G-C base pair, and a Py/Py pair corresponds to both an A-T base pair and a T-A base pair.

Please amend the paragraph at page 14, lines 13-19 as follows:

(3) The TGF-β gene expression inhibitor according to (1) or (2), wherein said target region is a double helix region comprising a part or all of the following base sequence from -548 to -537 (SEQ ID NO: 2) in the hTGF-β1 promoter, and a complementary strand thereof,

GCAATTCTTACA (SEQ ID NO: 2).

Please amend the paragraph at page 14, lines 13-19 as follows:

(4) The TGF-β gene expression inhibitor according to (3), wherein said target region is a double helix region which comprises a part or all of the following base sequence from -544 to -538 (SEQ ID NO: 3) in the hTGF-β1 promoter, and a complementary strand thereof,

TTCTTAC (SEQ ID NO: 3).

Please amend paragraph [0067] at page 19, lines 16-20 as follows:

[0067]

SEQ ID NO: ~~4Sense primer~~ 4 Sense primer

SEQ ID NO: ~~5Antisense primer~~ 5 Antisense primer

SEQ ID NO: ~~6Sense primer~~ 6 Sense primer

SEQ ID NO: ~~7Antisense primer~~ 7 Antisense primer